

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAY 26 2004

Applicant: Steven J. Berry and Marianne E. Berry

For: GAS CYLINDER BASE

Serial No.: 10/604,008

Examiner: Amy J. Sterling

Filed: June 20, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3632

Atty. Docket: 71501-0002

Confirmation No.: 1007

OFFICIAL

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to Examiner Amy J. Sterling at 703-305-3597Rebecca L. Shilt
SignatureDate: May 26, 2004Rebecca L. Shilt
(type or print name of person certifying)Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
REQUIRING ELECTION OF SPECIES

This paper is in response to the Office action mailed May 3, 2004. In the Office action mailed May 3, 2004, an election of species was required between the following allegedly patentably distinct species:

Examiner's Species I: Figs. 1-3;

Examiner's Species II: Fig. 4;

Examiner's Species III: Fig. 5.

The Election Requirement is traversed.

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The Examiner asserts that no claim is generic. Applicants assert that claims 1 and 17 read on each of the Examiner's Species I-III identified above, and are therefore generic. Applicants further assert that all of the claims relate to a gas cylinder base having at least one fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to a gas cylinder.

Applicants provisionally elect with traverse and without prejudice the Examiner's Species I for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-11, 14, 15, 17-27, 30, and 31 are readable on the Examiner's Species I.

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN I. BERRY AND MARIANNE E. BERRY

Dated: 5/26/04

By: 

Michael F. Kelly, Reg. No. 50,859
McGarry Bair PC
171 Monroe Ave., NW Suite 600
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 742-3500

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